

**Harrington Park Recreation Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 19, 2019**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 8:02pm.

**Chairman's Announcement**

In compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, adequate notice of the scheduled meeting was made. It is posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center. Copies have been mailed to the BERGEN RECORD, SUBURBANITE, and THE NORTHERN VALLEY PRESS. A copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk, and copies have been mailed to individuals requesting the same.

**2. ROLL CALL**

<b>COMMISSION Members</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
(CD) Charles DeGruccio (chairman)	X	
(LC) Lynne Cappelmann	X	
(TD) Thomas Donnelly	X	
(PK) Patrick (Kelly) Kramer		X
(AP) Ashely Plescia	X	
(LT) Lara Toomin	X	

ALSO PRESENT:

(JC) Joon Chung, Council Liaison

(CL) Carolyn Lee, Secretary

**3. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Running Club – Megan Dippolito

Ms. Dippolito did not attend the meeting. She wants to start a running club with someone in Northvale and would like to use the fields to warm-up and run. The only cost for the kids is the cost of a t-shirt. She does not have insurance. She wanted to know if she could go under the JIF. JC said that they cannot go under the JIF because it needs to be an entity and be under the umbrella of the borough. She is not securing the use of a field or designed area. This seems like it is a group of people running together. Recreation feels that they do not need a field request as long as they do not name the group that implies they are part of HP Recreation. An individual's primary insurance should be used if someone is hurt. She is aware that soccer may be using the fields in the fall.

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**a. Approval of Minutes (May 15, 2019)**

Motion: LC second: TD

All in favor said "aye". None opposed.

**5. UPDATES**

**a. Finance and Budget**

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**b. Field Requests**

**A. Highland Field Softball field – birthday party (June 22, 2019, 1-6pm)**

LT confirmed that there is no field conflict. CL will get the check from the applicant on June 22<sup>nd</sup> because the people do not know where Borough Hall is. They have insurance and filled out the required forms. Field request was approved.

**B. Speed Soccer (August Soccer Camp)**

Mayor and Council approved the contract. CL has not heard back from Jessica Torrie.

**C. Update**

**Bike group (June 3, 2019)**

CD approved the field request. CL went to open the bathroom doors, but they had opened it already. The past 3 years, the group has used Highland Field as a rest stop.

**c. School Coordination**

- There is scheduled field maintenance at the school this weekend. Softball fields look better. JC thanked TD and KK for their work.
- The school field along walkway to the bleachers next to playground has puddles that will last for days if it rains. It has been raining a lot. TD would like the school to look into the puddles.
- Bases. Recreation must talk to the school to let them know that all fields are used for Rec softball and ask the kids not to play with the bases or the dirt on the softball fields. There are a lot of girls this year, and may use all the fields next year. Rubber bases are needed for t-ball.

**d. Sports Coordination**

**A. Baseball**

Baseball had their award ceremony on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Joon needs the tax-id to dissolve HP Baseball Association properly. LC will ask Bonnie who was the treasurer at one time.

**B. Soccer**

Speed Soccer has a program for 3-4 year olds.

Soccer registration site for K+ is ready and can be accessed next week. There are sample uniforms.

TD suggested that Recreation should reach out to Crestron for sponsorship. JC mentioned they are sponsors for town day.

Soccer was billed for 2 years of field use for \$5,000/year. LT asked if the payment was received. JC has not heard if it was paid.

LC bills winter soccer on behalf of the school. Questions that were discussed because soccer will be under Rec:

- should soccer pay the school for the past winter?
- should the town pay the school going forward?

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LT is working with Joe Simeone, the soccer commissioner, on the contract with Speed Soccer and uniforms.

There were concerns with the trainers because they did not teach the kids during practices. Speed Soccer allocates practice trainers and the parents are the coaches. Speed Soccer should help parents with the training. The trainers are not the games to see where the weaknesses are and the coaches are not at the practices. There should be some communication between the trainers and coaches. It should be emphasized that parents should volunteer and be trained enough for practices.

LC will reach out to Rob Jaeger for NVSC for brief training sessions for parent volunteers. HP Rec Soccer is a feeder program to NVSC.

LT will let CL know if there are any volunteers not on the Rutgers training list. There is a 2-year gap between the 2 lists that Recreation has.

Recreation will request that kids are required to play Rec Soccer if they register for NVSC. Other towns require this as well. This will be hard to enforce. Other towns enforce through town travel. The Viking don't have travel clubs and require they play with the school or Rec.

Soccer had a family cap of \$225. LC will lower it to \$175.

The pricing:

GRADE		OLD PRICE	NEW PRICE
Kindergarten	- Clinic	\$60	\$50 (T-SHIRT)
1 <sup>st</sup> – 2nd	- one game - one practice	\$90	\$75
3 - +	- one game - 2 practices	\$100	\$85

AP asked if the prices are lowered and it's determined that the prices are higher for next year, would people complain?

Practice for grades 1-2, was cut to one practice to reduce the cost.

Vote to approve the new fees and caps	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent
(CD) Charles DeGruccio (chairman)	X		X		
(LC) Lynne Cappelmann			X		
(TD) Thomas Donnelly		X	X		
(PK) Patrick (Kelly) Kramer					X
(AP) Ashely Plescia			X		
(LT) Lara Toomin			X		

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TD asked if there is a way to cap the registration fee for a year that includes multiple sports? It would be good for sign up for once. It would be harder to budget for each of the sports. It was suggested to remain the same for the first year to determine the amount needed for each sport. Recreation could work something out when the numbers are analyzed.

In the past, there was a fee for not volunteering. This should be included in the website. It would be nice to schedule times for age groups practices with volunteer schedules (i.e. selling snacks at the hut).

LT said that Dick's is sponsoring equipment. Soccer has a lot of equipment and has a storage container for \$220/month. Baseball would like to construct a shed to store the equipment. The Pondsides shed is broken and the soccer container has mice. LT and volunteers plan to sort through the equipment in the red container at Highland field.

TD will send information about a 3 garage shed that was delivered for about \$1,200.

Highland – question about where it can be because of wetlands. TD said that railroad ties could be used to avoid a concrete slab. The cost and space could be shared.

Field 3 field house has a lot of space, but needs a new roof. It was recommended not to store baseball equipment there over the winter if the roof is not fixed. If the roof is fixed, it is a good space and soccer can store equipment there. TD will get an estimate to fix the roof.

**VIP Soccer**

VIP Soccer asked LT if it was possible to go under Recreation. VIP Soccer kids are from Northern Valley. JC will see if they can be made an adhoc group and included in JIF. Terry Schettino is the contact.

**e. Town Programs**

**A. Fishing Derby (June 16, 2019)**

The fishing derby was well attended with about 40-50 registrants. The members appreciated Lucas Bogosian's time. Lucas Bogosian provided the prizes and 40+ goodie bags for the registered kids. A few fish were caught this year. In the under 10 age group, there was tie. Sevan Boyadzhyan, age 3, and Michael Jenkins, age 8, both caught 7-inch catfish. In the over 10 age group, Dylan

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Mueger, age 13 caught a 23-inch carp and Goran Saric, age 13 caught a 17-inch carp.

#### **B. Town Day (Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019 noon-4pm; raindate Sunday, Sept. 8, 1-4pm)**

Farmers Market – would like to use Highland Field (lower highland) on Sunday, Sept. 8, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. There may be an overlap of 1 hour if Town Day is moved to the raindate. There was a suggestion that they could use between 10-12. Joon will let them know that the space is ok.

The committee will meet next week. Donation letters are completed and could be sent out. Allegro is interested in supporting. LT asked if Allegro could fix the field house when the Allegro completes their roof.

#### **C. Ragamuffin (Oct. 26, 2019)**

##### **f. Park & Playground Maintenance**

###### **i. Field Maintenance**

###### **ii. Pondside – curbing the dog**

There was an email from the borough to the community about curbing your dog. During the fishing derby many members noticed a lot of dog poop at Pondside, even next to the playground. Recreation will request that police give summons if caught or will consider installing a camera at Pondside and at the back of the school. The dog license indicates that you can't have dogs in parks and you must curb your dog. There is a need to take more aggressive measures. JC will speak to the police.

###### **iii. George Street Tennis Courts – No dog allowed sign**

There was a dispute with residents at the George Street tennis court about dogs in the tennis courts. Although there is a sign at George Street Park, there was not a sign by the courts. CL talked to KJ and Mark about the cost and ordering 2 signs for the tennis courts at the request of the clerk.

###### **iv. Report from Risk Management**

The report indicated that age recommendation signs for the playgrounds is recommended. In the past, there was discussion that there would be more liability on the town. What is appropriate for one child may not be appropriate for another. Hotels have signs for pools that read "at your own risk".

## **6. PROJECTS**

### **a. Grant Update**

The grant is ready. There will be a construction meeting before any construction starts next year. JC will ask about the field drainage.

## **7. OTHER ITEMS**

### **Wooden Bleachers**

- LT suggested replacing wood on the bleachers. The wood bleachers are not to code and would need railings and back guard. Could the bleachers be repaired?

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- Would a concrete base be needed if the Pondside bleacher were moved to Highland Field 5.
- TD will look at the bleachers at Pondside and the wooden bleachers at Upper Highland Field.

**8. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 9:23pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is July 17, 2019 at 8pm.